UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/852,776	05/09/2001	Michael S. Steele	ISAA0013	5228

22862   7590   05/04/2005

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EXAMINER
HAILU, TADESSE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>29 November 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-15</u> is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-15</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

         1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

         2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

         3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office Action is in response to the Applicant's Amendment to the

claims entered with filing of RCE on November 29, 2004.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35

U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   Claims 1-7, and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Ron R. Hightower et al, "Graphical Multi-scale Web Histories: A

Study of PadPrints, ACM HYPERTEXT'98 Conference, Pittsburgh, June 20-24,

1998.

With regard to claim 1:

Ron R. Hightower et al (Hightower) relates to a system (method and

apparatus) for providing graph structures, layout and graphical display of large

numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower discloses a system (method

and apparatus) that dynamically builds a graphical history-map (strategy view) of

visited web pages. Hightower further discloses a method for the efficient display

of large strategies (Fig. 6). The method (algorithm) provides a fisheye view of a

tree, wherein a plurality of nodes in the history-map is displayed at different sizes

(see Future direction, Fig. 6).

The method also includes among other things displaying in a strategy view an on screen part of a strategy that is not affected by an off screen part of said strategy (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7);

The method also includes showing detail in said display where it is important. As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, the important node gets focus, the rest of the nodes are different in smaller size (see Future direction, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section, Figs. 6 and 7).

The method also includes providing said display without scroll bars. As illustrated in Fig 6 and 7, user just jumps or clicks the desire node to view without having to scroll up and down (see Future direction, Navigating With PadPrints).

The method also includes providing navigational shortcuts for traversing said strategy view. As illustrated in Fig. 7, the visual clues (the title on each node) will help user to directly jump to the desired node (see Future direction, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Again, the method also includes providing navigational cues in said display, wherein such cues could be designated by title (Fig. 7).

The method also includes fitting as much information on said display as possible. As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, if the graphical history-map (strategy view) exceeds the size of the display, the map will be scaled to fit with the size of the display (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

The method further discloses maintaining a consistent top of the strategy-children orientation in said display. As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, especially the

hierarchy on the right maintains top of the hierarchy in similar size (of Fig. 6) scaled of (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Furthermore, as shown in each of display of a graphical history-map (strategy view) (Figs 6 and 7), the display fits into a rectangular view (see Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

The method further includes rendering all strategies. User browses (select and view) each node (web page) displayed (see Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6, also see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 2:

Independent 2 is rejected for reasons similar to those given for the rejection of claim 1.

With regard to claim 3:

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

As illustrated in the right hierarchy of Fig. 6, the method also includes if a portion of said strategy is not currently important or not being viewed, it has no effect on layout of a visible portion of said strategy (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

The method further includes that said strategy layout is dynamic (scaled by itself) and adaptable to a current portion of said strategy being viewed (see Abstract, Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

The method further includes that by selecting/focusing a node a user may view, in its entirety, a portion of said strategy on which said user currently wants to concentrate (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates "condition path", i.e., the path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

<u>With regard to claim 4:</u>

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes

within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see

the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

The method also includes defining a single segment of said strategy as a

focal point of said display. As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, the nodes in these Figs

are selectable and gets into focus the unwanted portion looses focus, that is

displaying segments with less detail the farther away they are from said focal

point (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History

section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical

history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy

(Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the

path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 5:

Hightower in view of the admitted prior art further discloses providing a

strategy (see the graphical history-map Figs. 6 and 7).

The method also includes providing a strategy view display of said

strategy see the graphical history-map Figs. 6 and 7).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in

its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6).

Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*; i.e., the path or link of

segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to the focus

node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the hierarchy

displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in order to reach

any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with the page (i.e.,

another condition that enables user to visualize where the segment is located

and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within the hierarchy (see *A

Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower teaches, "always displaying

on screen a set of conditions needed to reach a single segment currently

selected as a focal point."

With regard to claim 6:

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

As illustrated in Fig. 6 and 7, user just jumps or selects the desire node to view without having to scroll up and down (see Future direction, Navigating With PadPrints).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 7:

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

The method also includes selecting any segment makes that segment a focal point (see Future direction, Navigating With PadPrints).

The method further discloses that selecting any element in a link or path (decision path) makes a corresponding segment the focal point (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

<u>With regard to claim 9:</u>

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

Hightower further discloses using available display space to provide extra context for a focus node (Fig. 1); eliminating redundant information; and rendering information as compactly as possible (see Fig. 7, A Zooming graphical History section). As illustrated in Fig. 1, other context for a focus node is shown.

Hightower further discloses selecting, viewing or rendering a desired

node, wherein all nodes are viewable in the limited display area (see Future

direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page 2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical

history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy

(Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates "*condition path*", i.e., the

path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

<u>With regard to claim 10:</u>

Hightower further discloses that the widths of nodes and levels are only

wide enough to fit a widest label (Fig. 7). As shown in Fig. 7, the title/label fits

within the node (see Fig. 7).

<u>With regard to claim 11:</u>

Hightower discloses a graphical display method of large numbers of nodes

within limited display. Hightower further discloses providing a strategy view (see

the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, Hightower further discloses maintaining a consistent top of the strategy-children orientation (see Figs. 6 and 7).

Furthermore, as illustrated in the Figs. a top of the strategy is always at a center, left most portion of said display (Figs. 6 and 7).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy (Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates "*condition path*", i.e., the path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 12:

Hightower discloses a graphical display of large numbers of nodes within limited display. Hightower discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical history-map Figs 6 and 7).

Hightower further discloses fitting said display into a rectangular view; wherein said strategy layout is dynamic and adaptable to a current portion of said strategy being viewed (Abstract, Future direction, Navigating With PadPrints).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical

history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy

(Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the

path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

<u>With regard to claim 13:</u>

Hightower discloses a graphical display of large numbers of nodes within

limited display. Hightower discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical

history-map Figs. 6 and 7).

Hightower further discloses rendering a large numbers of nodes, wherein

every node is within the view of the display (see Future direction, Navigating With

PadPrints).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical

history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy

(Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the

path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 14:

Hightower discloses a graphical display of large numbers of nodes within

limited display. Hightower discloses providing a strategy view (see the graphical

history-map Figs. 6 and 7).

Hightower also discloses selecting a portion of said strategy (see Fig. 6) to

display by choosing a branch of said strategy view to display and optionally how

many levels of said branch to display (see Future direction, Figs. 6 and 7, page

2, A Zooming Graphical History section).

Hightower further teaches always permits a user to view the graphical

history in its entirety or zoom in to focus on a particular part of the hierarchy

(Figs. 1 or 6). Hightower also teaches and illustrates *"condition path"*, i.e., the

path or link of segments or nodes from the starting or top node of the hierarchy to

the focus node (see Figs. 1, 6, 7). Specially as illustrated in Fig. 7, a node in the

hierarchy displays the title (i.e., one condition that helps user to remember in

order to reach any segment in the hierarchy), and a small picture associated with

the page (i.e., another condition that enables user to visualize where the

segment is located and how to reach it (i.e., which link or path to follow) within

the hierarchy (see *A Zooming Graphical History* section). Thus, Hightower

teaches "always showing a condition path on screen" as claimed.

With regard to claim 15:

As illustrated in Figs. 6 and 7, Hightower further discloses scaled down

nodes or segment displayed in their entirety (see Figs. 6 and 7).

3.   Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Benjamin B. Bederson, et al, "A zooming Web Browser," (1997).

With regard to claim 8:

Benjamin B. Bederson, et al (Bederson) discloses a method for the

efficient display of large nodes (strategies). Bederson further discloses interactive

multi-scale display with dynamic objects that can restructure themselves. The

restructuring process is animated and providing a navigational cues so that users

can understand how the tree is being reorganized (see Bederson, A Zooming

Web Browser, section 2).

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 through 15 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
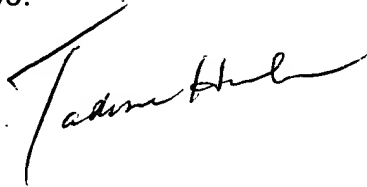

Conclusion

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the Examiner should be directed to Tadesse Hailu, whose telephone number is

(571) 272-4051. The Examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 10:00 - 630

ET. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

Examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at (571) 272-4048 Art Unit
2173.

6.   An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone

number is (703) 305-3900.

Tadesse Hailu
Patent Examiner
4/20/05